

1-1699

2-1974



Intelligence Information Cable

STATE/INR DIA NMCC/MC (SECDEF JCS ARMY NAVY AIR) CIA/NMCC NIC NSA SDO DOD CDS

PAGE 1 OF 4 PAGES

THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE

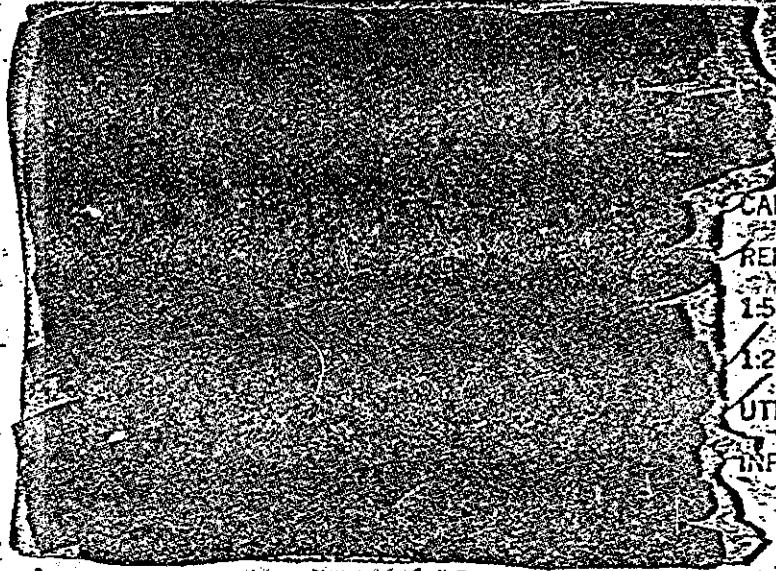
CITE YDCS 314/02216-72

DIST 24 MARCH 1972

COUNTRY CAMBODIA/NORTH VIETNAM
DOI 20-21 MARCH 1972
SUBJECT SIGHTING OF TWO AMERICAN PRISONERS HELD BY
THE NORTH VIETNAMESE ARMY IN PREY VENG
PROVINCE, CAMBODIA

ACQ VIETNAM, CAN TWO (21 MARCH 1972)

SOURCE



CAMP LOG # C19
REPORT LOG # 127
1:50,000 Coord: ☒
1:250,000 Coord: ☒
UTM Card: ☒
INFO Card: ☒

TAN Leo APPROVED FOR RELEASE
Date 20 6/72

EO 13526 (S-4712121212)

231

IN 569406

TDCS 314/02216-72

PAGE 2 OF 4 PAGES

(classification)

(dissem controls)

1. 300 MAN NORTH VIETNAMESE ARMY (NVA) BATTALION ARRIVED

IN THE VICINITY OF WT269225 PEAM CHOR DISTRICT, PREY VENG, PROVINCE,

CAMBODIA ON THE EVENING OF 20 MARCH 1972. COMMENT:

SOURCE IDENTIFIED THE UNIT AS THE 209TH NVA BATTALION. AVAILABLE

ORDER OF BATTLE LISTINGS DO NOT CARRY THIS UNIT. THERE IS A
209TH NVA REGIMENT LISTED AS ATTACHED TO THE 7TH NVA DIVISION.
A 209TH BATTALION IS ALSO LISTED AS AN AKA FOR THE VIET CONG
(VC) 502ND LOCAL FORCE BATTALION, ASSIGNED TO THE VC KIEN PHONG
PROVINCE AREA.) THE BATTALION WAS ESCORTING TWO AMERICAN
PRISONERS, ONE WHITE AND ONE BLACK. THE PRISONERS WERE KEPT
IN A LARGE CLUMP OF BAMBOO, SURROUNDED BY OTHER TYPES OF
JUNGLE VEGETATION, APPROXIMATELY 500 METERS FROM THE EAST
BANK OF THE PRASAT RIVER (ALSO KNOWN AS THE SO THUONG RIVER
BY LOCAL VIETNAMESE RESIDENTS.)

IN 559406

TDCS 314/02216-72

PAGE 3 OF 4 PAGES

(classification)

(dissem controls)

2. ON THE MORNING OF 21 MARCH CURIOUS LOCAL VILLAGERS WERE ALLOWED TO GO TO THE NVA CAMP TO LOOK AT THE PRISONERS, WHO WERE FORCED TO REMAIN SITTING ON THE GROUND BUT WERE NOT PHYSICALLY RESTRAINED IN ANY WAY. VC OFFICIALS WHO WERE PRESENT SAID THE PRISONERS WOULD BE TURNED OVER THAT EVENING (21 MARCH) TO THE VC MILITARY REGION 2 AND WOULD BE TAKEN TO THE TAN LEO AREA. [REDACTED] COMMENT: THE REASONS FOR TURNING THE PRISONERS OVER TO THE VC WERE NOT MADE CLEAR, NOR DID THE VC INDICATE WHAT THEY PLANNED TO DO WITH THE PRISONERS. THE TAN LEO AREA IS LOCATED IN THAT GENERAL AREA OF KOMPONG TRABEK DISTRICT, PREY VENG PROVINCE, NORTH OF WT 470125, WHERE THE SO HA AND KHAOM RIVERS INTERSECT AT THE SOUTH VIETNAM BORDER. ONE OF THE MAIN VC INFILTRATION AND SUPPLY ROUTES THROUGH GOVERNMENT OF VIETNAM KIEN PHONG PROVINCE AND TO AREAS IN THE EAST RUNS THROUGH THIS GENERAL AREA. SOURCE DID NOT KNOW WHERE THE NVA UNIT CAME FROM NOR WHERE THEY PLANNED TO GO.)

3. [REDACTED] COMMENT: THE ABOVE INFORMATION WAS SHOWN TO THE JOINT PERSONNEL RECOVERY CENTER/JPRC/, WHICH HAS MADE THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS: "THERE IS INSUFFICIENT DATA TO ATTEMPT TO DETERMINE THE POSSIBLE IDENTITY OF THESE POW'S. THE SIGHTING

IN 569406

TDCS 314/02216-72

PAGE 4 OF 4 PAGES

(classification)

(dissem controls)

OF POW'S IN THIS AREA IS VERY POSSIBLE. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] SAW 2 U.S. POW'S AT COORDINATES
WT095210 (*) [REDACTED] IT IS UNLIKELY THAT THE
TYPE OF UNIT MENTIONED WOULD BE ESCORTING U.S. POW'S. ALL
AVAILABLE INTELLIGENCE INDICATES THAT POW'S ARE GUARDED,
ESCORTED AND IN GENERAL ARE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF REGIONAL
FORCE UNITS.")

4. [REDACTED] DISSEM: EMBASSY USMACV USAID CORDS 7TH AIR FORCE
USARV NAVFORV 525TH MI GP 1021 FAS OF 1 AT SAIGON; SENT TO
CINCPAC PACFLT PACAF ARPAC [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

(*) [REDACTED] COMMENT: MISSING PORTION WILL BE DISSEMINATED ONLY IF IT
MATERIALLY AFFECTS THE SENSE OF THIS REPORT.)